

H.R. 1467 – 10,000 Trained by 2010 Act

Floor Situation

H.R. 1467 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative David Wu (D-OR) on March 9, 2007. The bill was referred to the Committee on Science and Technology and passed the Committee by voice vote.

H.R. 1467 is expected to be considered by the House on June 6, 2007.

*Note: Similar legislation was introduced in the 109th Congress but was never considered by the Committee.

Summary

H.R. 1467 sets in place several grant programs for students who are studying in the fields of information management within the health care industry.

Allows grants from the Director of the National Science Foundation (NSF) for basic research on innovative approaches to improve information systems. The research areas may include information studies, population informatics, translational informatics and data security, integrity and confidentiality. This section authorizes appropriations in the following sums:

- > \$3,500,000 for fiscal year 2008
- > \$3,600,000 for fiscal year 2009
- > \$3,700,000 for fiscal year 2010
- > \$3,800,000 for fiscal year 2011

H.R. 1467 authorizes grants for informatics research centers. These centers will help promote collaboration among health professionals, administrators, social science researchers, and information technology specialists. The Director of NSF will then convene an annual meeting with these centers for the purposes of sharing information collected at each center. This section authorizes appropriations in the following sums:

- > \$4,500,000 for fiscal year 2008
- > \$4,600,000 for fiscal year 2009
- > \$4,700,000 for fiscal year 2010
- > \$4,800,000 for fiscal year 2011

Additionally, the legislation authorizes grants for capacity building. These grants are to be used by institutions of higher learning for the purposes of attracting and retaining undergraduate and master's programs in the information fields and to provide for experience in government or industries related to their information studies. In order for an institution of higher learning to be eligible for these grants they must submit a proposal to the Director of NSF as to how the program will incorporate information studies and their placement of students in the information fields. The Director of the NSF will then evaluate the program established by the grant no later than 3 years after the grant is provided to be sure the goals of the program are being accomplished. This section authorizes appropriations in the following sums:

- > \$9,000,000 for fiscal year 2008
- > \$9,200,000 for fiscal year 2009
- > \$9,400,000 for fiscal year 2010
- > \$9,600,000 for fiscal year 2011

Lastly, H.R. 1467 expands the Scientific and Advanced Technology Act of 1992 to include information gathering. This section of the bill addresses people who have previously been in the workforce and want to return to school. This section authorizes appropriations in the following sums:

- > \$7,000,000 for fiscal year 2008
- > \$7,200,000 for fiscal year 2009
- > \$7,400,000 for fiscal year 2010
- > \$7,600,000 for fiscal year 2011

Background

H.R. 1467 finds that the healthcare industry is becoming more automated and digital and that the need for qualified workers to help manage, process, and collect the information will grow dramatically in the upcoming years. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 136,000 people were employed in the field of information management and that number is expected to almost double by 2010.

In order to increase the number of qualified information management graduates, H.R. 1467 establishes a grant program administered by the Director of the National Science Foundation to assist students in these fields and reward universities seeking to expand these programs. Additionally, the grants rely heavily on promoting interdisciplinary studies.

Cost

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that implementing H.R. 1467 would cost \$83 million from 2008-2012.

Staff Contact

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